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EXAMINER	
KE, PENG	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2174	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/893,541	CABANES ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Peng Ke	2174	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *10/18/04*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-8,10-22,24-26 and 28-41* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-8,10-22,24-26 and 28-41* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

This action is responsive to communications: Amendment, filed on 10/18/04.

This action is final.

Claims 1-8, 10-22, 24-26, and 28-41 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 10, 19, and 28 are independent claims. In the Amendment, filed on 10/18/04, 1, 2, 5-8, 19-22, 24-29, and 37 were amended, claims 9, 23, and 27 were cancelled, and claims 40 and 41 were added.

Since the applicant fails to traverse the examiner's assertion of official notice, official notice is taken as admitted prior art.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6-8, 10-18, 28-34, 36 and 38-39 are rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Rochford et al, (hereinafter Rochford), US-6,691,282.

As per claim 1, Rochford teaches a user interface method for executing one or more operations in a computer for interfacing an associated user with a knowledge portal that is operatively associated with a plurality of data objects (*file folder hierarchy*), the user interface

method comprising the steps of: displaying in a document pane at least a portion of the current object;

displaying in a map pane a K-map indicating objects which are cataloged in the knowledge portal as including content related to a selected K-map object; (Fig. 4a, col. 2, lines 13-31, col. 4, lines 34-48). and

displaying in a preview pane contents associated with the preview object selected from the K-map, wherein the document pane, map pane, and preview pane are displayed simultaneously on a single display device;(*contents of the newly selected child file folder are displayed in place of the list of contents previously displayed*) (hierarchy in first window, list of contents in second window, child file folders displayed upon selection, Fig. 4A, 30 (preview)) (Fig. 4a, col. 2, lines 13-31, col. 4, lines 34-48; Fig. 5 items 9, and 14).

receiving a user input; (Fig. 4a, col. 2, lines 13-31, col. 4, lines 34-48).

updating, based upon the received user input, at least one of a current object identity (*displaying a list of contents of selected file folder*), a preview object identity, and a K-map parameter (*general map is drawn*); (Fig. 4a, col. 2, lines 13-31, col. 4, lines 34-48).

updating a K-map conditional upon updating a K-map parameter (*direct containment hierarchy is redrawn to include the selected file folder*); (Fig. 4a, col. 2, lines 13-31, col. 4, lines 34-48).

As per claim 3, Rochford teaches the user interface wherein the step of updating, based upon the received user input, at least one of a current object identity, a preview object identity, and a K-map parameter includes updating K-map class selector value based upon the received user input (*displaying a list of contents of selected file folder, general map is re-drawn)*; and the

step of updating a K-map conditional upon updating a K-map parameter includes updating the K-map to include objects corresponding to the K-map class selector value (*ie North America ->Canada, United States, Mexico*) (Fig. 4A, 30; Fig. 4B, 32).

As per claim 4, Rochford teaches the user interface method wherein the step of updating a K-map class selector value includes updating the K-map selector value to correspond to *one* of a people class, a places class, and a things class based upon the received user input (*K-map selector values are comprised of places*) (Fig. 4A).

As per claim 6, Rochford teaches the user interface method wherein

the step of receiving a user input includes receiving a selection of an updated current object identity from the user through the K-map pane, the updated current object identity being one of the objects indicated in the map pane; (*selection/zoom of map window*) and

the step of updating, based upon the received user input, at least one of the current object identity, the preview object identity, and a K-map parameter includes updating the K-map object to correspond with the updated current object; and

the step of updating a K-map conditional upon updating a K-map parameter includes updating the K-map to include objects related to the current object which are cataloged in the knowledge portal as including content related to the updated current object (*upon selection of continent, related (inclusive) countries are displayed, upon selection of country related (inclusive) cities are displayed*) (Fig. 4A).

As per claim 7, Rochford teaches the user interface wherein:

the step of receiving a user input includes receiving a selection of an update preview object identity from the user through the K-map pane, the selected object identity being one of the objects indicated in the map pane, the method further comprising: (*user input can by entered or selected from list*) (Fig. 4A, items 30, 46).

Displaying in the preview pane contents associated with the updated preview object without changing the displaying in the document panel. (Fig. 4A, items 30, 46)

As per claim 8, Rochford teaches the user interface wherein the step of receiving a user input includes receiving a text entry through user highlighting of text in the document display pane; the step of updating, based upon the received user input, at least one of current object identity, a preview object identity, and K-map parameter includes updating the K-map object to correspond with the received text entry (search window proved which allows a user to enter a textual search criterion); and

the step of updating a K-map conditional upon updating K-map parameter includes updating the K-map to include objects which are cataloged in the knowledge portal as including content related to the selected text related to the selected text (*text input in search bar*) (Fig. 4a, items 46, 30; col. 2, lines 13-31, col. 4, lines 34-48; col. 5, lines 37-43).

Claim 9 is cancelled.

As per claim 10, it is rejected with the same rationale as claim 1. (see rejection above)

As per claim 11, Rochford teaches a user interface method wherein

the step of updating, based upon the received user input, at least one of a current object identity, a preview object identity, and a K-map parameter indl (*displaying a list of contents of*

selected file folder), at least one of a current object identity, a preview object identity (*general map is drawn*); and a K-map parameter includes updating a K-map view selector based upon the received user input to correspond to a node view; (*map zoom options*) and

the step of displaying in a map pane the K-map includes selectively displaying one of a tree view or a node view of the K-map based upon the setting of the K-map view selector (*containment hierarchy immediately redrawn upon selection to display update*) (col. 4, lines 51-58).

As per claims 12 – 13, they are the apparatus claims of claims 3-4 and are thus rejected on the same basis.

As per claim 14, Rochford teaches the user interface method wherein

the step of updating based upon the received user input, at least one of a current object identity, a preview object identity, and a K-map parameter includes updating K-map scope based upon the received user input; and

the step of updating a K-map conditional upon updating a K-map parameter includes updating the K-map to include objects which are cataloged in the knowledge portal as including content related to the K-map object and having a strength of relationship respective to the K-map object within the updated K-map scope (*K-map scope is defined as the subsets of the hierarchy, ie geographic places*) (col. 3, lines 25-46; col. 4, lines 51-58).

As per claims 15-17, they are the apparatus claims of claims 6-8 and are thus rejected on the same basis.

As per claim 18, Rochford teaches the apparatus as set forth in claim 10, further including:

Simultaneously displaying the document pane, the map pane, and the preview pane on a single display device. (Fig. 4a, col. 2, lines 13-31, col. 4, lines 34-48; Fig. 5 items 9, and 14).

As per claim 28, Rochford teaches the user interface for interfacing an associated user with a knowledge portal that is operatively associated with a plurality of data objects, the user interface comprising:

a means for receiving user input;

a K-map processor (*processing platform*) for calculating a K-map corresponding to a current object and a set of K-map parameters, the K-map identifying objects indicated by a catalog of the knowledge portal as having content related to the current objects;;

a current object display pane for displaying at least a portion of the current object;

a K-map display pane for displaying the K-map; and

a preview pane different from the current object display pane for displaying contents corresponding to a preview object (*portion of contents displayed on general map, which can be zoomed in upon*) (Fig. 4C, 54; col. 4, lines 34-58).

As per claim 29, Rochford teaches the user interface of claim 28 wherein:

the K-map display displays the K-map in a non-hierarchal node view (*Fig. 4A, 30, node view*) (Fig. 1, Fig. 2, 20).

As per claim 30, Rochford teaches the user interface wherein the set of K-map parameters includes a class parameter; and the K-map processor calculates a K-map containing objects limited to objects corresponding to the class parameter (*processing platform of device*) (Fig. 9, 10).

As per claim 31, Rochford teaches the user interface wherein the means for receiving a user input include a pointing device selection means operative at least within the K-map display pane; and the class parameter is selectively updateable by the user via the pointing device selection means operating on a graphical class input dialog (*mousing over*) (col. 6, lines 4-23).

As per claim 32, Rochford teaches the user interface wherein the class parameter selectively takes values including a people class value, a places class value or a things class value (*places*) (Fig. 3, 20).

As per claim 33, Rochford teaches the user interface wherein the set of K-map parameters includes a scope parameter; and the K-map processor calculates a K-map containing objects limited to objects whose relationship to the current object falls within the scope parameter value *(K-map displayed only within scope of value in 40)* (Fig. 4; 40, 50).

As per claim 34, Rochford teaches the user interface wherein the means for receiving a user input include a pointing device selection (*mousing over*) means operative at least within the

K-map display pane; and the scope parameter is selectively updateable by the user via the pointing device selection means operating on a graphical scope input dialog (col. 6, lines 4-23).

As per claims 36, Rochford teaches user interface wherein the means for receiving a user input includes a pointing device selection means operative at least within the K-map display pane; and

The current objet is selectively updateable by the user via the pointing device selection means operating within the K-map display pane. (*arrow can be dragged or otherwise controlled by user input device to update the hierarchy/display*)(col. 6, lines 4-23).

As per claim 38, Rochford teaches the user interface wherein the set of K-map parameters includes an object parameters, the object parameter being selectively updateable by the user; and the K-map processor calculates a K-map containing objects related to the object corresponding to the object parameter *(K-map displayed only within scope of value in 40)* (Fig. 4; 40, 50).

As per claim 39, Rochford teaches the user interface wherein the means for receiving a user input include a pointing device selection means operative at least within the document display pane whereby the user selectively updates the object parameter by selecting text corresponding thereto from the contents of the document display pane *(user input pointing device allows user to select textual links (ie Canada, Toronto))* (col. 6, lines 4-23).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 35 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) in view of Rochford et al (hereinafter Rochford), US-6,691,282.

As per claim 35, Rochford does not explicitly teach the user interface wherein the graphical scope input dialog is a slider bar. However, Official Notice is taken that slider bars are well known in the art and it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to extent the teaching of Rochford to include a slider bar in order to the user to have the additional capability of navigating the map interface with a sliding bar that navigated the user up, down and to the right and left.

Claims 2, 5, 19, 20, 24-26, and 41 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) in view of Rochford et al (hereinafter Rochford), US-6,691,282. in view of Sklar et al. (5,790,121)

As per claim 2, Rochford teaches a user interface method wherein the step of updating, based upon the received user input (*displaying a list of contents of selected file folder)*, at least one of a current object identity, a preview object identity (*general map is drawn*); and a K-map parameter includes updating a K-map view selector based upon the received user input to correspond to a node view; (*map zoom options*) and

the step of displaying in a map pane the K-map includes displaying a node view of the K-map (*containment hierarchy immediately redrawn upon selection to display update*) (col. 4, lines 51-58).

Rochford fail to teach a non-hierarchal node view of the K-map.

Sklar et al. teaches a non-hierarchal node view of the K-map. (col. 6, lines 32-48)

It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to include Sklar's teaching with method of Rochford in order to construct an interface that provides an over all view of data.

As per claim 5, Rochford teaches the user interface method wherein

the step of updating based upon the received user input, at least one of a current object identity, a preview object identity, and a K-map parameter includes updating K-map scope based upon the received user input; and

the step of updating a K-map conditional upon updating a K-map parameter includes updating the K-map to include objects (*K-map scope is defined as the subsets of the hierarchy, ie geographic places*) (col. 3, lines 25-46; col. 4, lines 51-58).

However, Rochford fails to teach the interface which are cataloged in the knowledge portal as including content related to the K-map object and having a strength of relationship respective to the K-map object within the updated K-map scope

Sklar et a. teaches an interface which are cataloged in the knowledge portal as including content related to the K-map object and having a strength of relationship respective to the K-map object within the updated K-map scope. (col. 3, lines 38-68)

It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to include Sklar's teaching with method of Rochford in order to simplify the hierarchical information.

As per claim 19, Rochford teaches an article of manufacture comprising a program storage medium readable by a computer and embodying one or more instructions executable by the computer to perform method steps for executing an operation to per form a user interface method for interfacing an associated user with a knowledge portal operatively associated with a plurality of data objects, the method comprising the step of:

generating a knowledge portal catalog cataloging data objects based on content; (Fig. 4a, col. 2, lines 13-31, col. 4, lines 34-48; Fig. 5 items 9, and 14)

displaying in a document pane at least a portion of the a current object; (Fig. 4a, col. 2, lines 13-31, col. 4, lines 34-48; Fig. 5 items 9, and 14)

constructing a K-map identifying related objects having content related to a K-map object using relationship between the related object and the K-map object; (Fig. 4a, col. 2, lines 13-31, col. 4, lines 34-48; Fig. 5 items 9, and 14)

displaying in a map pane the K-map; and

displaying in a preview pane contents associated with a preview object selected from the related objects, the preview pane being displayed simultaneously with the document pane and the map pane. (Fig. 4a, col. 2, lines 13-31, col. 4, lines 34-48; Fig. 5 items 9, and 14)

Sklar et a. teaches an interface which are cataloged in the knowledge portal as including content related to the K-map object and having a strength of relationship respective to the K-map object within the updated K-map scope. (col. 3, lines 38-68)

However, Rochford fails to the method measures the strength of relationship between objects.

Sklar et a. teaches an interface which are cataloged in the knowledge portal as including content related to the K-map object and having a strength of relationship respective to the K-map object within the updated K-map scope. (col. 3, lines 38-68)

It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to include Sklar's teaching with method of Rochford in order to simplify the hierarchical information.

As per claim 20, Rochfor and Sklar teach the article of manufacture as set forth in claim 19. Sklar further teaches the method wherein:

The displayed K-map includes object corresponding to a user-selectable K-map class selector value. (col. 3, lines 38-68)

Claim 23 is cancelled.

As per claim 24, Rochford and Sklar teach the article of manufacture as set forth in claim 19, wherein the method further includes:

Receiving a selection of an updated current object identity from the user through the K-map pane;

Constructing an updated that includes objects related to the updated current object;

Displaying the updated current object in the document pane; and

Displaying the updated K-map in the map pane.

As per claim 25, Rochford and Sklar teach the article of manufacture as set forth in claim 19. Rochford further teaches wherein the method further includes:

Receiving a selection of the preview object identity from the user through the K-map pane. (fig. 4b item 32)

As per claim 26, Rochford and Sklar teach the article of manufacture as set forth in claim 19. Rochford further teaches wherein the method further includes:

Receiving a text entry supplied through user highlighting of text in the document display pane; (col. 6, lines 25-55)

Updating the K-map to include objects related to the selected text. (col. 6, lines 25-55)

As per claim 41, Rochford and Sklar teach the article of manufacture as set forth in claim 19. Rochfor further teaches wherein the method further includes:

Updating the K-map object to correspond to one of a group consisting of: (i) a double clicked K-map entry, (ii) text in the document pane that is highlighted by a user, and (iii) one or more search terms entered by a user; (Fig. 4a, col. 2, lines 13-31, col. 4, lines 34-48; Fig. 5 items 9, and 14).

Updating the displayed K-map to identify at least (i) relatd object having content related to the updated K-map object, and (ii) a measure of a strength of relation ship between each related object and the updated K-ma object. (col. 6, lines 25-55)

As per claim 41, Rochford and Sklar teach the article of manufacture as set forth in claim 19. Rochfor further teaches wherein the method further includes:

Updating the K-map object to correspond to one of a group consisting of: (i) a double clicked K-map entry, (ii) text in the document pane that is highlighted by a user, and (iii) one or more search terms entered by a user; (Fig. 4a, col. 2, lines 13-31, col. 4, lines 34-48; Fig. 5 items 9, and 14).

Updating the displayed K-map to identify at least (i) relatd object having content related to the updated K-map object, and (ii) a measure of a strength of relation ship between each related object and the updated K-ma object. (col. 6, lines 25-55)

Claims 21 and 22 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) in view of Rochford et al (hereinafter Rochford), US-6,691,282. in view of Sklar et al. (5,790,121), further in view of Novik (US 6,339,745)

As per claims 21, Rochford and Sklar teach the article of manufacture as set forth in claim 19. However they fail to teach the article wherein:

The displayed K-map includes objects corresponding to a user-selectable K-map class selector value.

Novik teaches the article wherein:

The displayed K-map includes objects corresponding to a user-selectable K-map class selector value. (col. 11, lines 65-col.12, lines 6)

It would be obvious for one of ordinary skilled in the art at the time of invent to include Novik's teaching with the article of Rochford and Sklar in order to allow user to select objects that they think is useful.

As per claim 22, Rochford, Sklar, and Novik teach the article of manufacture as set forth in claim 21. Rochford further teaches where corresponds to one of a people clas, a places class, and a things class. (fig. 15, item "Track Name")

Claims 37 and 40 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) in view of Rochford et al (hereinafter Rochford)

As per claim 37, Rochford further teaches the preview and current object is selectively updateable by the user via the pointing device selection means operating within the K-map display pane, the updating the preview object not affecting the current object display pane. (col. 6, lines 4-23)

However, he fails to teach the updating of the preview object not affecting the current object display pane.

Novik teaches updating of the preview object not affecting the current object display pane. (fig. 3 item update)

It would be obvious for one of ordinary skilled in the art at the time of invent to include Novik's teaching with the article of Rochford in order to allow user to update information regard the subject without of changing the display.

As per claim 40, it is of the same scope as claim of 37. (see rejection above)

Response to Argument

Applicant's arguments filed on 10/18/04 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant's arguments focused the following:

A) Rochford fails to teach that the objects in the file folder hierarchy indicate object cataloged in a knowledge portal as containing content related to a K-map object.

A) Examiner disagrees. During patent examination, the pending claims must be "given *>their< broadest reasonable interpretation consistent with the specification." > In re Hyatt, 211 F.3d 1367, 1372, 54 USPQ2d 1664, 1667 (Fed. Cir. 2000). Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993). Applicant always has the opportunity to amend the claims during prosecution, and broad interpretation by the examiner reduces the possibility that the claim, once issued, will be interpreted more broadly than is justified. In re Prater, 415 F.2d 1393, 1404-05, 162 USPQ 541, 550-51 (CCPA 1969)
In this case, the claims recites "displaying in a map pane a K-map indicating objects which are cataloged in the knowledge portal as including content related to a selected K-map object", and Hollon teaches this limitation in figure 4A-4E. In figure 4A, the map pane (item 50) displays a map of the world and simultaneously the system acknowledges the content that it is displaying on the map pan by indicating the name of the display map on the knowledge portal. (item 40)

B) Rochford fails to teach a preview window.

B) Examiner disagrees. Examiner interprets window 32 to be the preview window, because it allows user to preview the content that he can add to window 40.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Peng Ke whose telephone number is (571) 272-4062. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th and Alternate Fridays 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine L Kincaid can be reached on (571) 272-4063. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Peng Ke